

"DRINK DID IT"

In these three words is contained the keynote of a ghastly tragedy that robbed twelve children of a father, made a wife a widow, and a young boy of 13 the slayer of his dad. The entire Province has been shocked by the terrible deed committed near North Bay the other day, when, to protect his mother from the blows of his father, a young lad just entering his teens shot and killed his parent. The boy is now under arrest on a charge of manslaughter.

The long trail of evils and crimes that can be directly traced to the use of liquor has few tales more poignant than this. In an ante-mortem statement the dead man exonerated his son for what he had done and assumed the blame himself. The dying man's words to his boy contain the strongest temperance sermon that could be preached.

"You did just right, son," he said; "you tried to protect your mother, and a good boy should always do that. It was all my fault, and I deserved just what I got. You look after your Ma now, son, and don't ever feel sorry for me. It was drink did it. I never would have hit your Ma if it hadn't been for that whiskey."

A Crime Breeding Traffic

There is nothing that could more strongly condemn the whole business of the liquor traffic than the words of this man, who with his last breath named whiskey as the cause of his downfall. Perhaps, like many another man, he was a good husband and father when sober, but when he had taken drink his nature was changed. There is no

demon that can so act upon the nature of a man and atrophy every fine feeling, every moral sensibility and every good impulse, and change a human being into a creature below the level of a beast, as that of strong drink. It is not only the brains of men that liquor steals away, it is their entire manhood and every noble faculty, feeling and impulse.

Whatever the verdict of Judge or jury in this case may be, a young lad will grow to manhood haunted by the deed that has been done and the dying words of his father: **"DRINK DID IT."**—Editorial Toronto Globe.

In comment on the editorial **Dr. J. Buchanan, D.D., Toronto**, says:—

Re your splendid editorial this morning on "Drink Did It." That is what the repentant dying father said. In your paper, page 3, the sad parish father, the Rev. V. G. McFadden, says: "The one who is responsible for the death of Anthony Tucker is the man who supplied him with the liquor."

But do we not need to go back a step or two more? The Government that authorized the sale did it. Then we, the people of Ontario, who sanctioned this liquor-selling business, did it. So there it is:

"Drink did it."

"Liquor-seller did it."

"Government did it."

"We did it."

2c each; 50 for 15c; 100 for 25c.

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